

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM



What is The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)?

The SFSP provides cash reimbursement for meals served at eligible sites when school is not in session. This program is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is administered at the State level by the Maryland State Department of Education. Throughout the State local sponsoring organizations administer the SFSP.

Eligible Programs

Although the SFSP is federally funded, it relies upon local organizations to actually organize the meal service. Five types of organizations are eligible to be SFSP sponsors:

- Public or private nonprofit school food authority;
- Unit of local, tribal or state;
- Public or private nonprofit residential summer camp;
- National Youth Sports Program participant;
- Private, nonprofit organization with tax exempt status.

Benefits

- **Monthly reimbursement**
Organizations receive assistance in the form of cash reimbursement for providing meals.
- **Training and technical assistance**
Educational workshops, training resources, and technical assistance are available to participating sponsors to help make your SFSP a success.
- **Satisfaction of helping children in need**
Children in low-income areas receive free nutritious meals and return to school in the fall ready to learn.

How are Sponsors Reimbursed?

Annually the USDA determines the rate of reimbursement for free meals and snacks.

The MSDE receives funds from USDA, and in turn, reimburses local sponsors for the meals they serve. The sponsor is reimbursed for free meals or snacks served at the rate set by the federal government. Both operating costs and administrative costs are reimbursed.

Meals Eligible for Reimbursement



Sites may receive funding for two meals a day, a meal and a snack, or two snacks. Camps may be reimbursed for up to 3 meals each day or two meals and a snack. All meals and snacks must meet USDA meal pattern requirements. Sponsors may claim reimbursement for all eligible children through age 18.

Call or visit us on the web
410-767-0214 or www.eatsmartmaryland.org